GUIDE TO THE MM2 HADHRAMAUT FILE

[The MM2 Hadhramaut File is concerned with the Arabic-speaking peoples and cultures of the Hadhramaut and the former Aden Protectorate in the southwestern part of the Arabian Peninsula. Since 1967 this area has been part of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen. However, all of the material in the file predates this time. The file contains 23 sources, numbered 1-16 and 18-24. The original source number 17 was never processed. All of the sources are in English and were written principally by government officials and travelers. The principal sources are 1: Ingrams, which is a British Colonial Office report on social, economic and political conditions in the Hadhramaut with data collected during the period 1934-1936 (this is the best single source in the File); 5: Hamilton and 6: Hamilton are lectures by a British army officer on the social organization of the various groups living in the Aden Protectorate and, more particularly, the Hadhramaut; and 24: Meulen and Wissmann is a good travel book which contains a large amount of cultural information. The various other sources help to fill in the subject areas not covered in the previous sources.

This is not a particularly good file to use for cross-cultural purposes. There are many gaps in the information; there are few sources written by social science researchers and none by anthropologists and ethnographers. On the other hand, the file contains the best of the little information available on this region and is valuable for special purpose uses. Most of the information refers to the period 1930-1950. The file was processed in 1955. There were no special marking decisions made for this file.]